

Remarks

Applicants have cancelled claims 1, 2, and 4-6.

Applicants have added new claims 7 and 8. Support for these claims can be found throughout the specification and particularly, for example, in claim 3 and paragraphs 38 and 41.

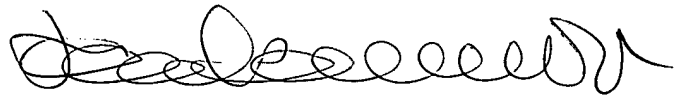
In response to the Restriction requirement, applicants elect Group II, claim 3.

Applicants submit that the new claims 7 and 8 are embodiments that belong to the group as they present proteins with odd number of collagen domains, and they are present an odd number of times (see, Examiner's comment at paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3, in the May 24, 2005 Office action). Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that these claims be added as embodiments of the invention as defined in Group II.

Applicants believe no fees are required with this submission. However, should any fee deficiencies be associated with this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to debit such deficiencies to the Nixon Peabody Deposit Account No. 50-0850. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/23/2005



David S. Resnick (Reg. No. 34,235)
Leena H. Karttunen (L0207)
NIXON PEABODY LLP
100 Summer Street
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 345-6057/1367